



Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

Lord Foster of Bath
House of Lords
London SW1A 0PW

Lord Greenhalgh

*Minister of State for Building Safety and Fire
(joint with Home Office)*

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

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10 March 2022

Dear Lord Foster of Bath,

During the Building Safety Bill Grand Committee session on 2 March and the Additional Building Safety Measures: Products, I promised to write on a number of matters that arose.

Product Safety

On the timing of next steps on the Product Safety Review, I am pleased to confirm the Government's intention to bring forward proposals for consultation later this year. As I mentioned during the debate, alongside the Product Safety Review, the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) is leading a national programme of regulatory action to tackle the risks from unsafe and non-compliant goods sold on online marketplaces. I thought it might be helpful to set out that this includes:

- Using data and intelligence to target supply routes and disrupt the sale of non-compliant products before they reach consumers. In 2021, 12,500 products were removed from supply due to OPSS interventions.
- Expanding its test purchase programme, targeting and assessing the compliance of products being sold online by third party sellers.
- Providing advice to consumers, including issuing an 'Important Product Safety Message' that warns of the risks of buying online and provides a safety checklist for purchases.

I hope this reassures you that the Government is taking practical, immediate action alongside the development of proposals for reform of the product safety framework.

I undertook to circulate the draft Construction Products Regulations, that are available on the Gov.uk website. A link to them is [here](#).

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

I also wish to clarify a matter that was raised in the response to Baroness Finlay on Amendment 117 regarding carbon monoxide alarms. The Government has responded to the consultation on proposals to extend provisions for carbon monoxide alarms to be fitted – this response can be found [here](#) We will amend regulations as soon as parliamentary time allows and is working to bring the changes into effect as soon as practicable.

Energy Efficiency

During the debate on Energy Efficiency, my colleague Baroness Bloomfield said that if a particular technical requirement is not applicable to a specific building project, the building

regulations nonetheless require that the building is not made less compliant with it than it was before the building project. This was a description of the 'non-worsening' principle at regulation 4(3) of the Building Regulations 2010. In fact, whether this principle applies will depend on the type of building work being undertaken and the examples given should be understood in that light.

I have copied this letter to Baroness Hayman, Baroness Finlay, Baroness Pinnock and Lord Stunell.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lord Greenhalgh', written in a cursive style.

**Lord Greenhalgh
Minister of State for Building Safety and Fire
Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities and Home Office**